

THE CURRENT

THE BIG
PICTURE
printing
without the
fine print


Philipp Family
Foundation


HUTT MANA
CHARITABLE TRUST


pht
Porirua Harbour and
Catchment Community Trust

Cover Artwork
Anastasia Caccioppoli
Paremata School

PĀTAKA
ART + MUSEUM

porirua**city**

A journal about Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour

Clean our harbour

wind rocking the trees side to side

The Waves

THE FUTURE

Schools Can participate by giving us good decisions and choices. And by helping the environment and the harbour.

WE are kaitiaki

HELP OUR HARBOUR!

1. encouraging others
2. helping the environment and taking care of the harbour.
3. taking care of sea animals/ animals habitats.

The harbour can make up a difference. PICK UP YOUR RUBBISH

Birds desending in the sky like a flock.

Slapping water everywhere

The harbour has never got over Farming. Animals live there

Seaweed looks like sea cabbage

The wind

Blowing

We can still make a change

There is no such thing as "away", When you throw something away it simply must go somewhere. Please make that place the bins, Don't litter.

Porirua harbour is the only harbour with roads going right around it and roads so close to the water. POLUTION!

Ngati Toa tried their hardest to make porirua the way it was.

Don't kill the whales

We should think about stuff before we do it because it might infect our water

There is NO Planet B

our harbour is our native fish's home

pipi shells

Salty spray and grasses

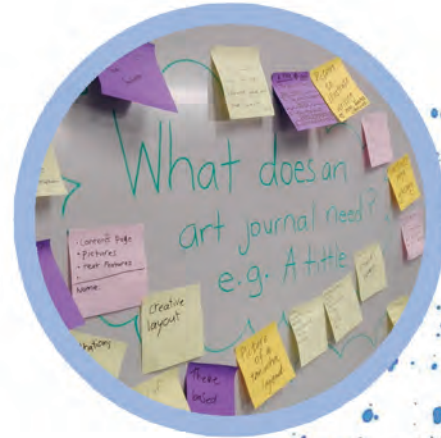
LOVAL

We can still make a Change

Kia ora koutou,

This is a student led journal made for students by students. This journal has been lovingly created by six local schools; Titahi Bay School, Porirua School, Rangikura School, Paremata School, St Theresa's School and St Brigids School. A group of students from each school were chosen by their teachers to become the leaders of 'The Current' journal and to feed back their knowledge into their class activities. We met every Wednesday afternoon and we really enjoyed meeting other students from different schools. In the club we had expert artists, writers and historians work alongside us. We learnt all about the harbour and how through action we can help change people's hearts and behaviours to help Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour. In this journal you will find a mixture of creative projects by our different classes.

Yours faithfully,
'The Current' leaders team.



PŌHUTUKAWA

TIPUNA OF PORIRUA HARBOUR

My branches can see the sea foam
rising on the shore
My leaves feel Tangaroa's strain
against the rigid contorted sea
My red flowers droop like Loxodonta ears
My twigs taste the rain as the drops smash
against my rough brown trunk
My roots shake as Rūaumoko
walks in the underworld
My heart throbs as Tāwhirimātea
cries for his lost children.

My children were seeds sown into the ground
My children are growing tall and grounded
My children will be proud strong standing
Pōhutukawa trees.

My role is to be the Kaitiaki of
Te Awarua-o-Porirua.

Sophia McIntyre
Rangikura School

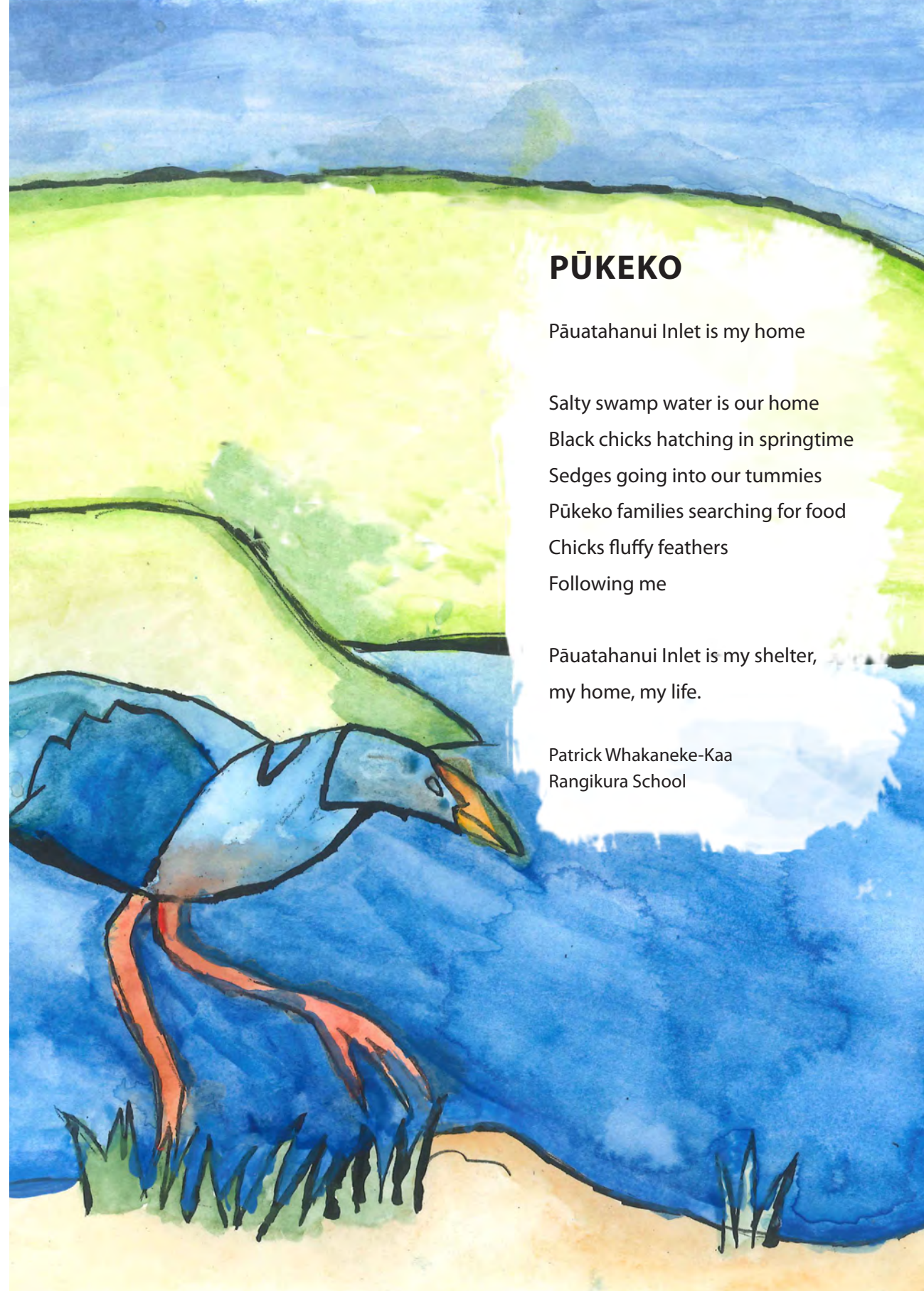
PŪKEKO

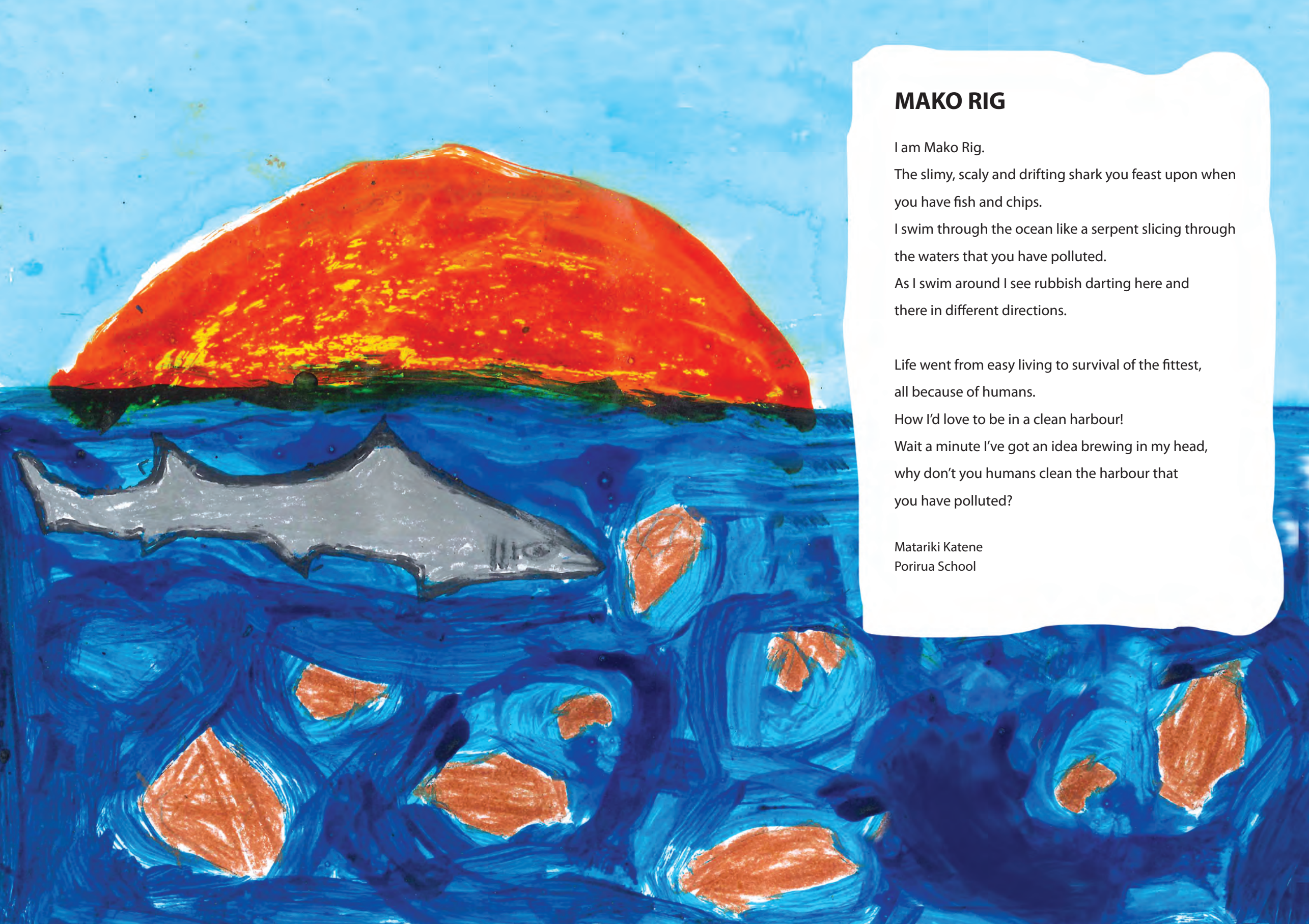
Pāuatahanui Inlet is my home

Salty swamp water is our home
Black chicks hatching in springtime
Sedges going into our tummies
Pūkeko families searching for food
Chicks fluffy feathers
Following me

Pāuatahanui Inlet is my shelter,
my home, my life.

Patrick Whakaneke-Kaa
Rangikura School





MAKO RIG

I am Mako Rig.

The slimy, scaly and drifting shark you feast upon when you have fish and chips.

I swim through the ocean like a serpent slicing through the waters that you have polluted.

As I swim around I see rubbish darting here and there in different directions.

Life went from easy living to survival of the fittest, all because of humans.

How I'd love to be in a clean harbour!

Wait a minute I've got an idea brewing in my head, why don't you humans clean the harbour that you have polluted?

Matariki Katene
Porirua School

the sea life

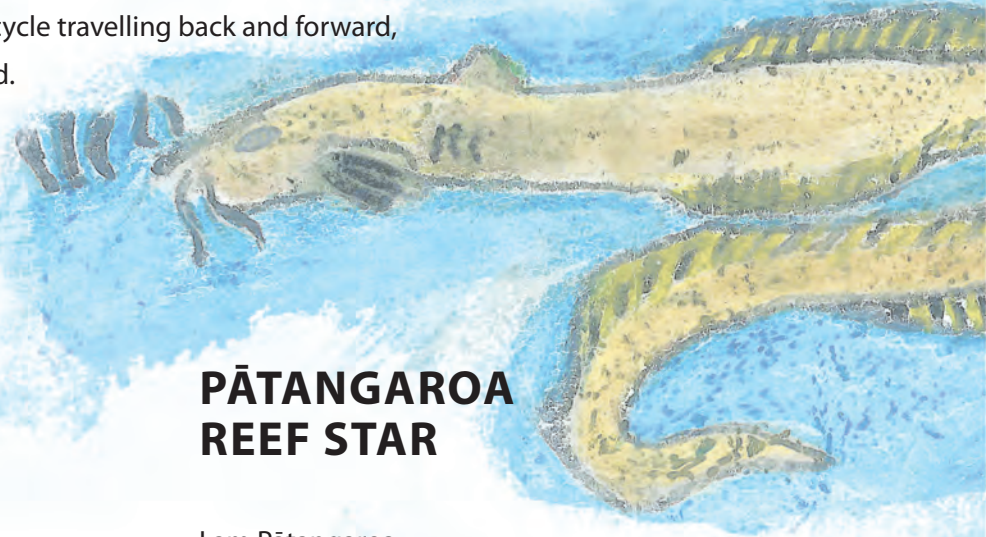
Te Awarua o Porirua looked up
High above the hills he saw the moon
Remembering when he was surrounded
by tall beautiful trees
When he was crystal clear
When he had happy sea life
Now he was littered in and polluted
His sea friends had left
He stopped remembering and looked off into the distance
He saw small people approaching
dressed in black and yellow
He heard their low voices traveling with the wind
Then, they began to remove the rubbish from him
And very slowly over time and several generations
Te Awarua o Porirua returned to his former glory
And...

Jordan Tibble
Rangikura School

I AM TUNA

I am Tuna.
Slimy, slippery, fast.
I sleep most of the day and hide in the dark.
When it is time to have newborn tuna,
I travel miles and miles across the ocean to Tonga.
A never ending cycle travelling back and forward,
back and forward.

Cadon Omeri
Porirua School



PĀTANGAROA REEF STAR

I am Pātangaroa,
the spiky, rough and mysterious reef star.
As I rest on the sea floor, I gaze at the glimmering crystal
clear water.
A ray of sunshine expands throughout the
whole ocean.

I see the ika swim away as I invade their territory.
I glare at the golden sand melting through the humans
toes as they walk by. The tiny little drops of water sink into
skin and drown their frozen toes.

Alina Watene
Porirua School



EYES OF A KINGFISHER

Resting on a tree branch, glancing lazily around
Limitless mountains of green
Rough tree branches under my feet
Opening my eyes
A sky of pink as the sun peaks out of the mountains
The warm northerly wind wraps around me
Listening to the whistle of wind
Taking in the splash of fish as they swim and dive
Flying into the endless sky of pink
Closing my eyes
This is my harbour.

Ronita Kuaoni
Rangikura School



Artwork
Alina Watene
Porirua School



IHUMOANA

I am Ihumoana,
the dangerous and frightening jelly fish.
I roam the shallows and attack the nosy humans.
I hide beneath a blanket of velvet blue
and creep towards the golden shore.

The sights I see are always in front of me.
I see joyful humans running towards the sea
I experience the bronze sand
as I explore the ocean floor.
I see radiant grey rocks as I slither
through the ocean like a snake.

I am Ihumoana, I am a bluebottle.

Serenity Martin
Porirua School



People need to be more aware of their actions especially when around water because it is precious.

Porirua harbour is special to everyone for different reasons. We're lucky to live so close to the harbour we need to take care of it. Some people live in landlocked countries and have to go through other countries to get to the sea. I'd like for the harbour to be cleaner in the near future and to achieve that we need to take good care of our water systems like our drains. What goes down the drain goes straight into the harbour. Drains are only designed for stormwater but all kinds of litter finds its way down there and the main reason behind that is people who litter. People need to be more aware of their actions especially when around water because it is precious.

Poppy Albertson
Titahi Bay School



Drain Art Designs
Ayla Hamer
Nivayah Collins
Matilda Hoerara-Hunt
Titahi Bay School



Don't Be Mean Keep it Clean

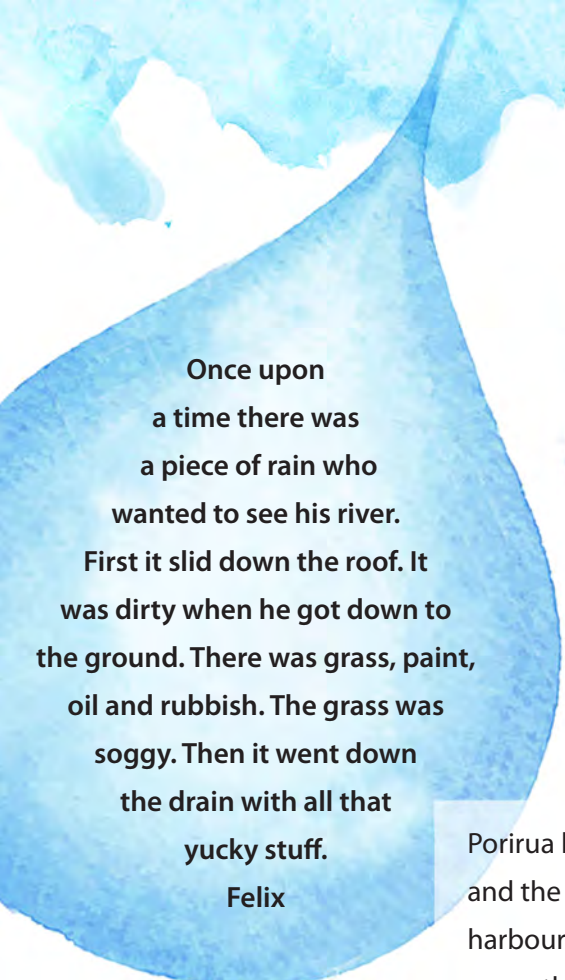
Porirua harbour is important to me because sea animals live there so we need to take care of it and make it clean for everyone. I want the harbour to be how it used to be in the past when people could enjoy the harbour without finding pollution. It used to be clean clear shiny and had lots of kai moana. I think planting trees, like I did with my classmates, would provide more shelter for the creatures in the water. More plants will also prevent landslides and and dirt from contaminating our harbour.

Cullen Leatherby
Titahi Bay School

Porirua harbour is a lovely place to go fishing, do waka ama, paddle board, kayak and sail. I'd like to see healthy clean water, more fish and of course, less rubbish. To keep our harbour healthy for our future we can do a clean up each week, plant trees for shelter and help make the banks more stable along the streams. Everyone should make sure they put their rubbish in the bin, it's not hard.

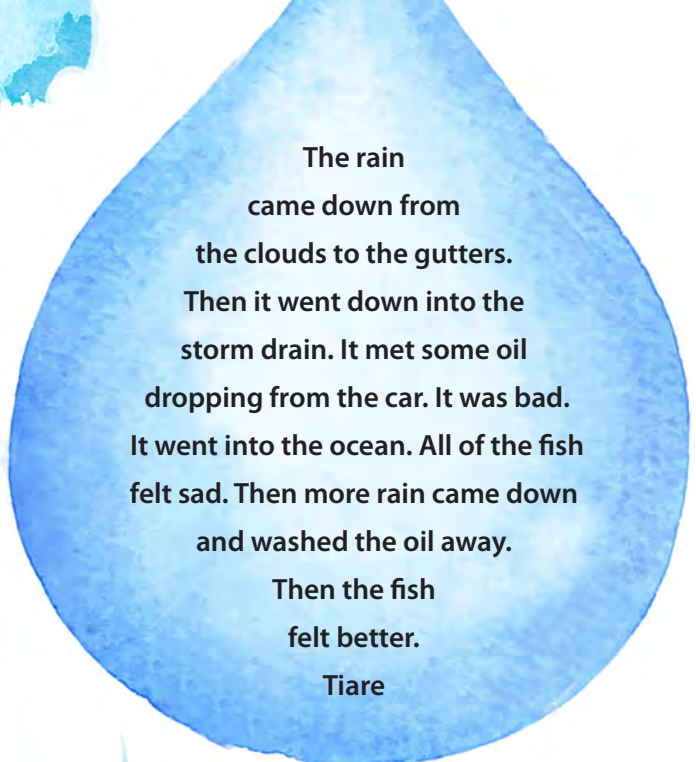
Emi Dawson
Titahi Bay School





Once upon
a time there was
a piece of rain who
wanted to see his river.
First it slid down the roof. It
was dirty when he got down to
the ground. There was grass, paint,
oil and rubbish. The grass was
soggy. Then it went down
the drain with all that
yucky stuff.

Felix



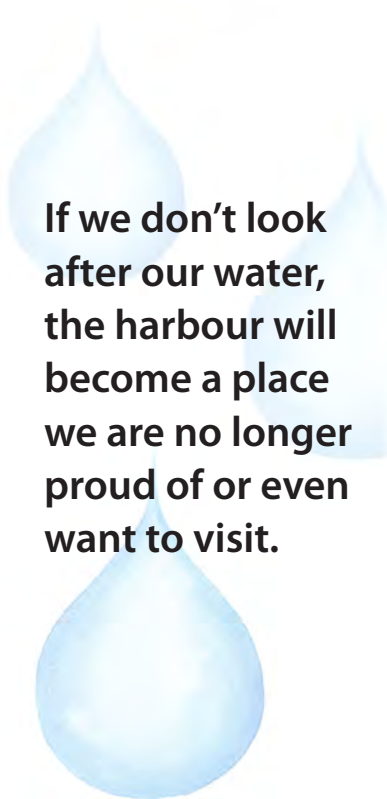
The rain
came down from
the clouds to the gutters.
Then it went down into the
storm drain. It met some oil
dropping from the car. It was bad.
It went into the ocean. All of the fish
felt sad. Then more rain came down
and washed the oil away.
Then the fish
felt better.

Tiare

Porirua harbour is important to everyone in the community and the creatures that live in there. In and around the harbour there are lots of beautiful things but there's also many things that are not so beautiful like trolleys, glass, cigarettes and the worst is plastic bags and oil/run off. Everyone I know loves the harbour, especially those that do waka ama and people that love kaimoana like kina, paua and pipi's.

My connection with the harbour is that I have lots of happy memories that come from there. I remember one time, when my cousin Haven and I went down to the beach to go on her seabiscuit. Haven was going to jump back onto the boat but then she fell off the biscuit. I want to keep on having more memories like that. If we don't look after our water, the harbour will become a place we are no longer proud of or even want to visit.

Milly Crawford
Titahi Bay School



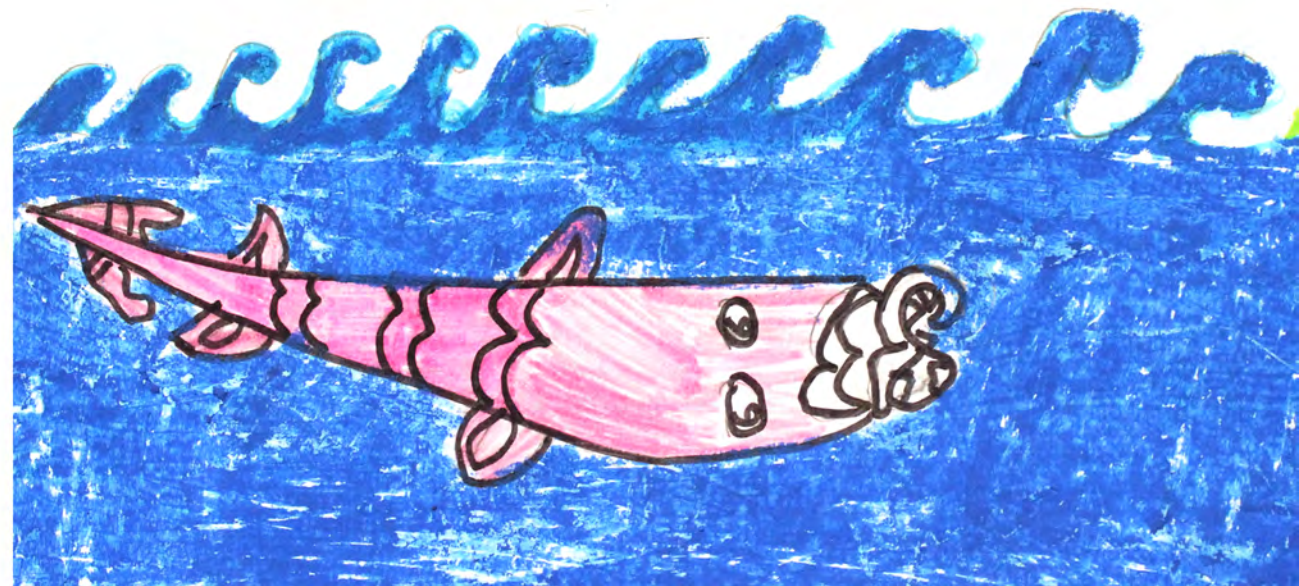
**If we don't look
after our water,
the harbour will
become a place
we are no longer
proud of or even
want to visit.**



AWARUA THE TANIWHA

In the middle of Porirua Harbour there once lived a taniwha called Awarua. He dreamed of zooming through the sky with the air brushing past his face. As Awarua watched his friend Rereroa, the Albatross, fly through the sky Awarua became more and more jealous. So one day he asked Rereroa to teach him. Rereroa said okay and that evening Awarua could fly like his friend. Awarua wanted to show all his fish friends. As he showed them he got so excited he crashed into a tree and tumbled onto Mana Island. So that is how Mana Island became flat forever.

Georgia Collins
Titahi Bay School



NATURE STORY

This year, our class have been trying to reduce the amount of pests in New Zealand, starting with our school. We looked out for native birds, to see which species we could find and see how many we could see. Next we put out tracking tunnels to see what pests we have in our school. We had lots of rat and mice footprints. Next we set the traps out in different areas, a decent distance away from each other. At first, we caught many pests, but then as the weeks went by, the amount of pests slowly reduced. Then we counted the birds again and we saw an increase in the native bird population living in our school.

Then we went to Zealandia (a native New Zealand Wildlife sanctuary) and saw lots of native birds and plants. We learned heaps about how we need to protect our indigenous life. After we went to Zealandia, we went to Otari Wilton's bush to look at the different types of birds and plants that were there. There were many kereru and some kingfisher.

We had lots of rat and mice footprints.



We learned about how we need to protect our indigenous life.

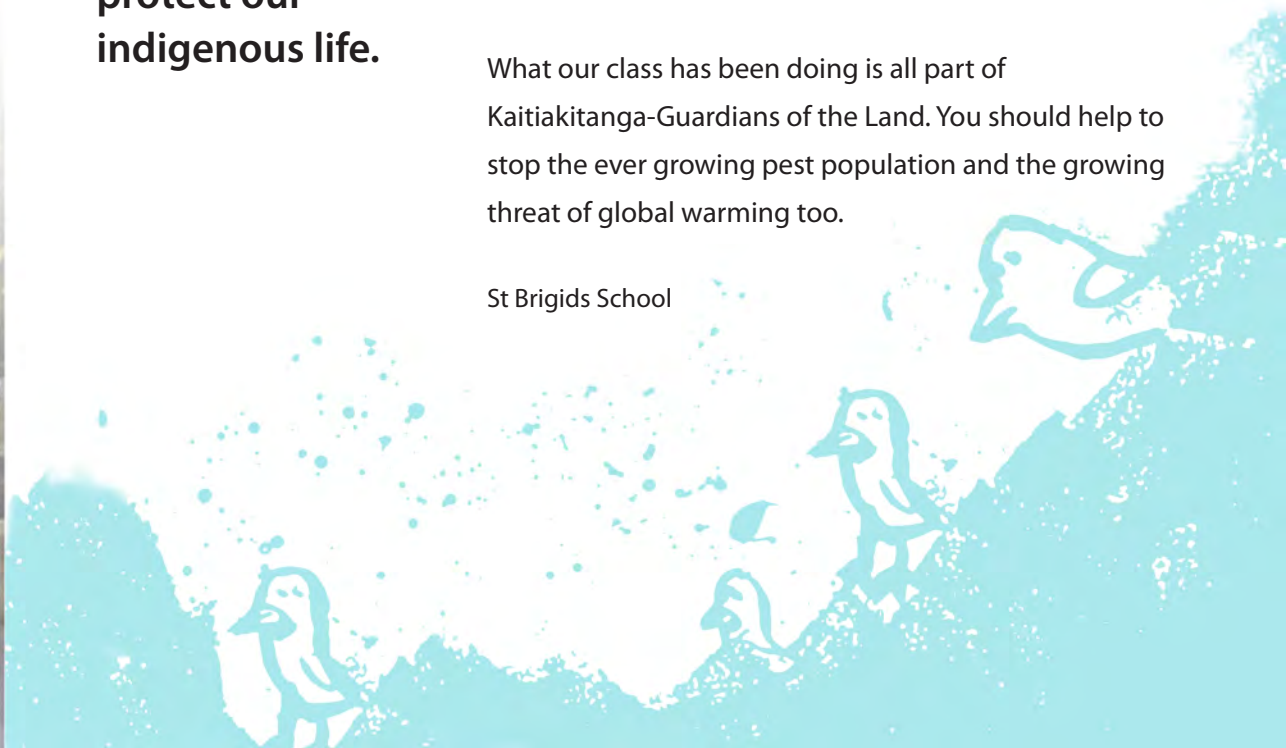
Next we went to Ngā Hau e Whā o Paparāangi marae where we learned to identify different plants. We also did some weeding, planting and got told the legend of the two taniwhas of Wellington harbour.

As we mentioned before, we started doing this to encourage native birds to come to our school but also to make our stream that connects to the Porirua harbour cleaner. From term 2 our school has had this rule that each week, 2 classes go around the school picking up rubbish to make our school cleaner and so that the rubbish doesn't go into our stream. This is killing many sea animals. To reduce this problem, we are going to make beeswax wraps for the school fair for people to use instead of plastic and gladwrap.

We are also bringing tree wetas which we will create homes for them at Onslow College and bring them here. We are getting leafcutter bees that do not sting and should encourage more native bush to grow here.

What our class has been doing is all part of Kaitiakitanga-Guardians of the Land. You should help to stop the ever growing pest population and the growing threat of global warming too.

St Brigids School



PĀTIKI RORI

I am Pātiki rori, a peaceful, staring, floating fish that dwells on the ocean floor.

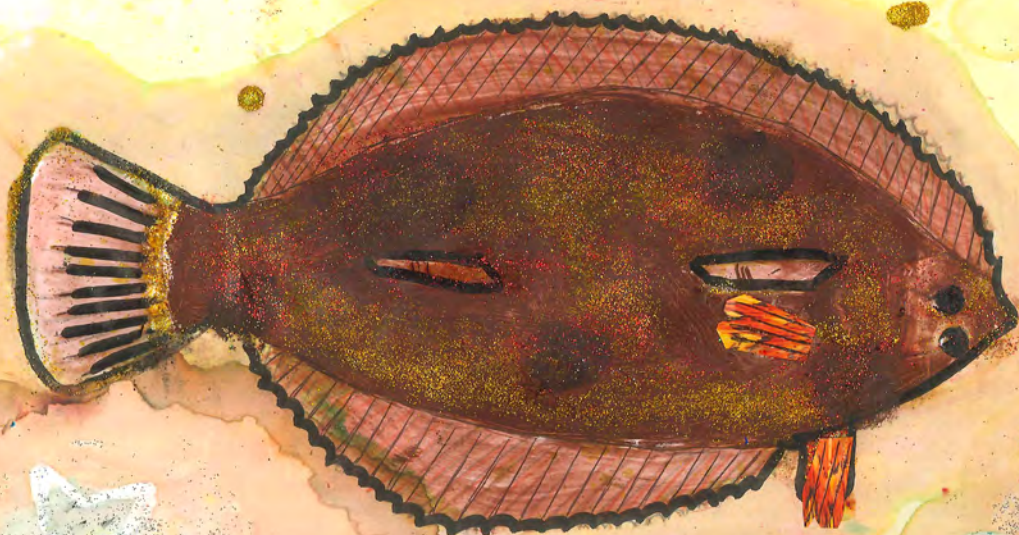
I gaze at miniature sand flakes floating in the water as if they were moving in slow motion. A shark swims by, I freeze with horror, a frightened body and a frozen spine. A raw dark place, I lay there for hours.

The coast is clear. I slowly creep out. The moon is piercing through gentle ripples of water. Gazing upwards, I discover a star in the sky, and another, and another. They appear second after second until a whole glittery carpet shines above me. I relax and melt into the soft beige sand. A shadowy sky, a cold night and a peaceful slumber.

I rest on the seafloor until a cramped glance of sunlight signals a new day.

Ko Pātiki rori ahau, I am a common sole flounder.

Cartier Graham
Porirua School



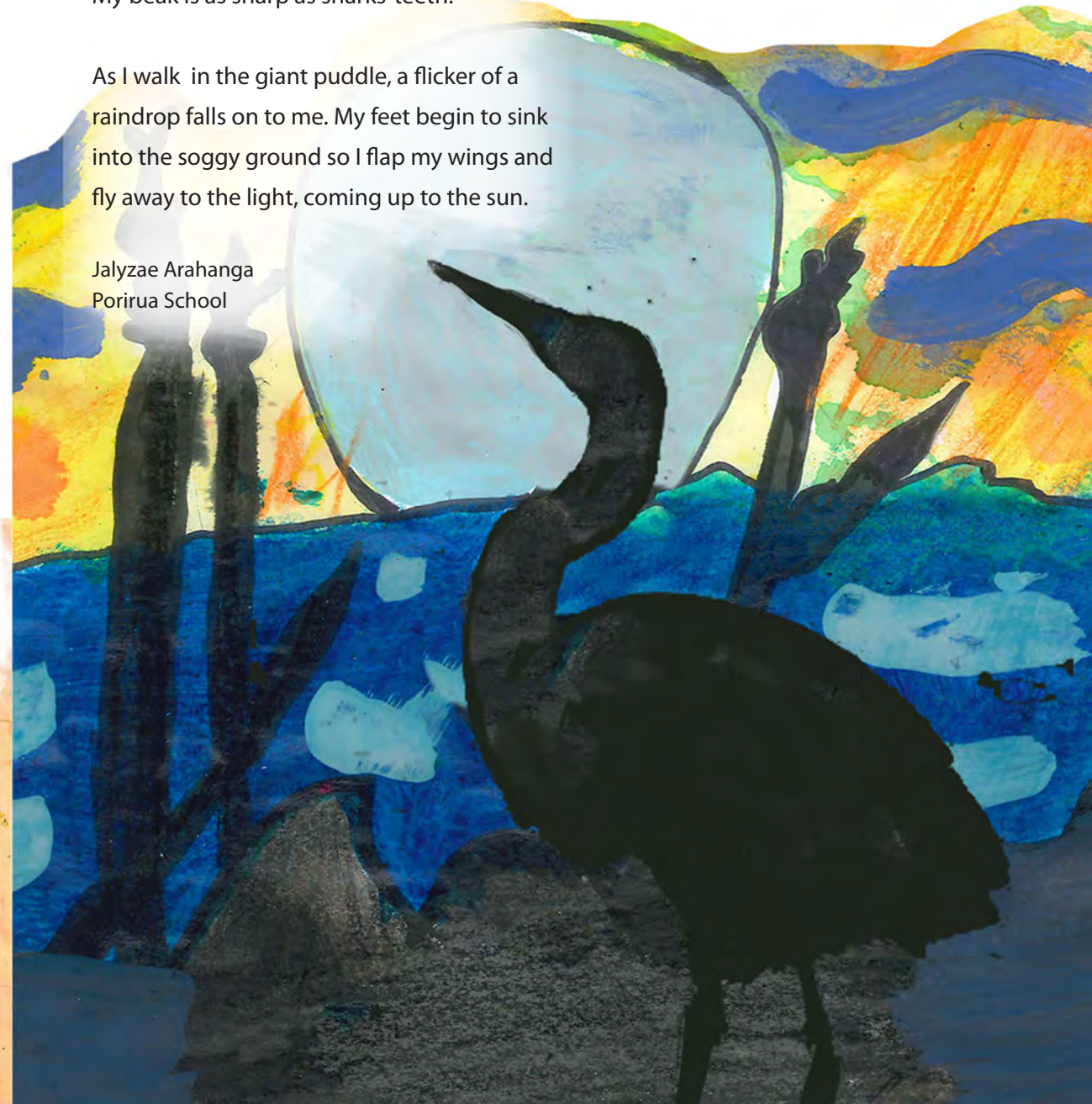
MATUKU

I am Matuku, a small friendly bird, harmless to the humans but frightening to the crabs.

My wings are like a dark cloudy day and my face is white as snow as the sun shines on me. My beak is as sharp as sharks' teeth.

As I walk in the giant puddle, a flicker of a raindrop falls on to me. My feet begin to sink into the soggy ground so I flap my wings and fly away to the light, coming up to the sun.

Jalyzae Arahanga
Porirua School





THERE IS NO PLANET B TAONGA AOTEAROA!

In Room 7 at Paremata School, we were all doing sustainability projects in Term 2. Our group decided that we needed to save our ocean. Our mural's purpose was to send a message out to the community that we need to treasure our moana. During the process of designing our mural, we tried to visualize what our oceans should look like- without any plastic or other pollutants. We would like this mural to be what the future oceans around Aotearoa look like. Something to strive for. We would like to acknowledge and thank Esmé Dawson for her wonderful support with this project. We had so much fun and learnt heaps.

Alex, Anastasia, Harry and Maia
Paremata School





come
explore with
me.

COME AND EXPLORE WITH ME

Buses barely miss me
I walk along the motorway
Homeless in a busy world
Okowai reserve, my home the dump
Dirt travelling into the home of our taniwha
From the homes of Aotea on the hillside above.

Tasting the tears of my short lived children
I nest on plastic bags
The polluted ground of silt
When will humans notice us?

Chattering voices, spades and buckets
Suddenly it's clear
Warm sun shines upon my feathers
Blues greens purples shine highlighted with red
Long legs now for wading and running
Smooth glossy water washes along the shore
Okowai wetlands revitalised once more.

Molly Beek
Rangikura School

WHEN THE WIND BLOWS AT BOWLER'S WHARF LAGOON

Fresh grasses flow gently in the wind.
A magical tui song reaches my ear as it soars
through the sunny sky.
Water rippling under the shade of an ancient
macrocarpa tree.
Clouds fly by with birds chattering amongst
themselves as they surf through the wisps of cloud.
Remembering, wishing, wondering my head goes
as we walk back along the dark concrete street.

Charlotte Instone
Paremata School

PORIRUA HARBOUR

Waves surfing across the smooth water
Rocks shining in the shallows
Birds diving and swooping for food
Ducks resting on the water with the black
swans and pūkeko.

James Whale
Paremata School

Artwork
Jade Hanrahan
Titahi Bay School



SINA'S JOURNEY

This year was the year we had our production which meant we had to design costumes for our dance and the main characters. I designed the butterfly costumes with some help from Anna Bailey and some other classmates. I also helped Anna with the dragonfly head which we spent most of the time doing papier mache. We used papier mache for a lot of our costume. The outcome of the Dragonfly head was unexpected but it worked!

Eden designed the big dragonfly which we included in our dance. It looked really effective when you're looking at it from the auditorium and we even put lights in the eyes. Some of the other designers designed the ant, bee, ruru, the list goes on!

The big butterfly puppet was created by a team of people and also included a lot of papier mache. The fabric wings were sewed, painted and operated by a team of puppeteers. It looked also really effective on the stage. Our mini butterflies were fun to make and were made in the same way as the big butterfly and were made to fly through the air by dancing puppeteers.

Working with a puppeteer, Anna, was awesome as she gave us lots of ideas and techniques to use. She taught us how to hand stitch, sew and make glue out of flour and water.

Rachel and Eden
St Theresa's School



SINA'S JOURNEY

ACT 1 SCENE 5

CHILD #2: Don't stand too close to the edge. Who knows what's in the water?

CHILD #1: Clears throat, puts up hand Well actually, ... there's a good chance there are koura, torrent fish and different sorts of bullies.

CHILD #2: Bullies? Oh no, all those other poor little fish must be so anxious.

CHILD #1: Bullies are their names. Not their personalities.

CHILD #3: Prodding the water Where are the eels?

CHILD #1: They'll be hiding under logs and boulders.

GRANDFATHER and GRANDMOTHER arrive.

CHILD #3: Shouts I've found some! Come and see! They're massive!

CHILD #2: I'll come if there are any baby ones ... cute baby ones.

CHILD #1: There are no baby eels here, only adults.

CHILD #2: What happened to the baby ones? High voice Did they all die? Higher voice Did the big ones eat the little ones! Highest voice How could they do that to the poor little baby eels! Pulls out tissues, blubbing

GRANDMOTHER puts arm around CHILD #2

GRANDMOTHER: There's nothing to fret about. It's the tuna's life cycle. Only the adults live in these streams. They stay until they're between 25 to over 80 years old. Then, they swim downstream, out of the estuary and into the ocean.

CHILD #2: Where do they go? And why?

CHILD #1: Nearly all the way to Tonga, to breed.

GRANDMOTHER: The eggs hatch and the larvae drift in the currents where they turn into glass eels.

CHILD #2: Glass? That sounds dangerous!

GRANDMOTHER: They're called that because they're see-through.

CHILD #1: When they get back to New Zealand, they find their way to freshwater and grow into small eels, called elvers.

GRANDMOTHER: They become adults and stay until they're ready to return to the sea. And the story starts over again.

CHILD #2: So no babies are eaten by the adults? That's ok then.

CHILD #2 skips off to see the fish and eels

CHILD #1: You missed out the part about the adults dying once they breed.

GRANDFATHER: Too sad, that's why.

GRANDMOTHER: Exactly.

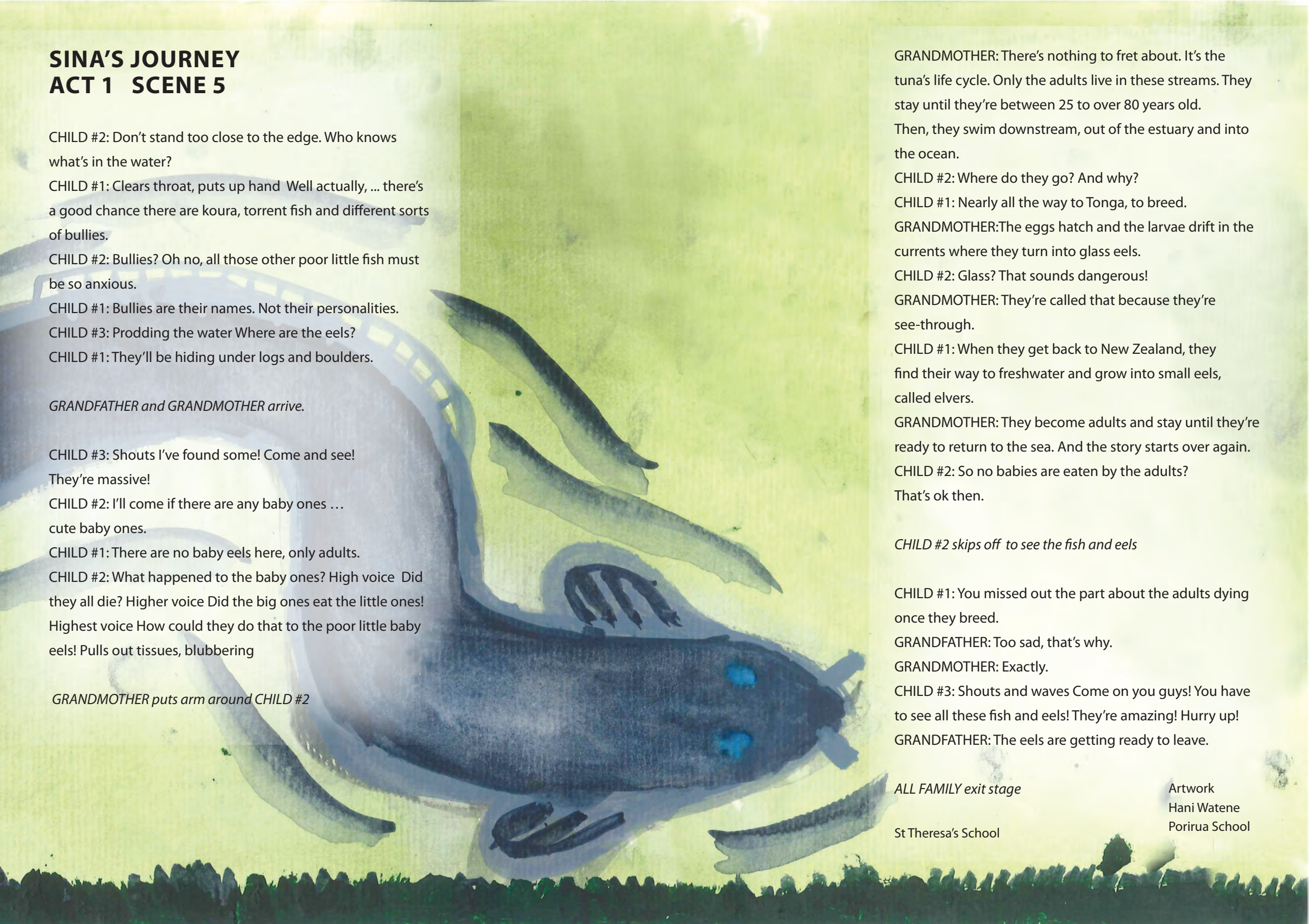
CHILD #3: Shouts and waves Come on you guys! You have to see all these fish and eels! They're amazing! Hurry up!

GRANDFATHER: The eels are getting ready to leave.

ALL FAMILY exit stage

St Theresa's School

Artwork
Hani Watene
Porirua School



SILENT WATERS

The clouds are scattered over the sky like pieces on a chessboard.

The sun reflects golden light off the surface of the water.

The blackbirds spring from tree to tree searching for insects.

The trees rustle swiftly as the wind rushes through them.

Alastair Binns
Paremata School

PORIRUA HARBOUR

At the bottom of the ocean the sea creatures scurry in the gritty grainy sand.

You can hear the tui echoing its magnificent song.

Satiny seaweed dancing in the sea's current.

On top of the water the fish swim in delight.

The spirit of Awarua roaming in her sparkly sea home.

On the beach the shells glide back and forth in the swaying waves.

The sun slowly laying its glitter cloak onto the sea.

Hannah Mckinnon
Paremata School

AROUND THE HARBOUR

Swimming through the smooth fresh water on a hot and sunny day

The sun glistening on the water while I am swimming

A school of fish swimming beneath me in the cool fresh water

Seagulls squawking in the sky above.

Cyrus Brightwell
Rangikura School

THE WONDERS OF PORIRUA HARBOUR

The water ripples like little waves coming to say 'hello'.

The sun gently smiles down at the flowing tide.

The mist frantically scribbles above the sea like pages and pages of writing.

The sand scurries away hand in hand with the soaring wind.

Tui sing with pride like a violinist, in the kōwhai tree.

The clouds glide over the hills like a white blur smudging the green out.

Evie Griffiths
Paremata School

Artwork
Tumanako Waa
Titahi Bay School

PLASTIC

In our world we have too much plastic
I think it's time we did something drastic
Lots of sea creatures are getting tangled
Sadly this means they are getting strangled
Let's all sit down and have a conversation
So we can decide
how to change this situation

We can talk about what we can do
And give each other a useful clue
We need to write a big note
So everybody has a huge vote

They stick on our fences
They float in our streams
Make a change
It's one of our dreams

There's so much plastic in the sea
Dumped by we all know...you and me

Now let's make a change
To STOP using plastic
So people can arrange
To do something drastic.

Tanika Lawrence
Paremata School

Artwork
Breanna Morrison
Paremata School



WETLANDS DESERVE OUR RESPECT

Hey did you know that 30% of New Zealand's fish species live in wetlands across New Zealand? Wetlands are really important because they keep the water fresh and pure when it flows down from upper catchments.

Wetlands act like kidneys because both wetlands and human kidneys filter out contaminants in water. When water comes into the wetlands it slows down and sediment particles settle and are absorbed by the plants and taken out of the water.

Pied Stilts and herons all live in wetlands and they often breed there. Wetlands are great nesting places for many birds because they provide good hiding places.

Sadly people used to drain wetlands to build roads and towns. People thought wetlands were just swampy places and because of this 10% of New Zealand's wetlands remain.

Wetlands were a taonga for Maori because they provided flax and kai moana. Flax was used for clothes, mats and rope.

There are lots of wetlands around Porirua. The most beautiful is Pāuatahanui Wetland. This wetland is like a giant sponge when it rains the ground becomes soggy. There are many spider webs to your left and right, spiders are just one of the creatures that live in Pāuatahanui along with inanga (whitebait), tuna (longfin eel), spoonbills, shags, paradise ducks and the recently introduced fern birds.

Wetlands can be an attractive feature of a life style block, help improve water quality on your property and provide a safe place for native plants, birds, invertebrates and fish.

We need to learn to help wetlands and look after them better if we want to preserve the rich life that lives there.

Harrison Mounsey-Smith
Paremata School

Artwork
Morgan Berry
Titahi Bay School





THANK YOU

A special thank you to the inspiring and talented experts that facilitated workshops with students to support this journal.

Struan Ashby
Erica Duthie
Sarah Maxey
Wiremu Grace
Anna Bailey
Gillian Candler

Thank you to the passionate school teachers who committed to this journal and incorporated this project into their school curriculum with stunning results. This couldn't have happened without you.

Thank you to Rebecca McCormack from the Porirua Harbour Trust for weekly catch ups and keeping everything moving forward.

Thank you to the wonderful Pātaka Education Team Margaret Tolland and Linda Fordyce for your ongoing support.

Lastly thank you to the rangatahi whose work shines on these pages. The future is in good hands.

Ngā mihi mahana,
Esmé Dawson
Educator, Co-ordinator and Designer for
'The Current'
A journal about Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour

Artwork
Milla Brown
Paremata School

Community

Be a hero and
Save our harbour.

AOTEA LAGOON

Hills surrounding
Awarua the taniwha
Restless, churning water
Birds descending in the sky
Outgoing tides
Underwater marine life
Really amazing

Our harbour
is our taonga

am the solution
to the problem

We should
say "stop
Transmission
and look at
our harbour.
What do you
see?"



Little Villages



CHANGES

fish are cool

Hospitals were
built.

History of Porirua Harbour



Came From And
The Coconut.



TRUCE With the HARBOUR

Care for our
animals habitat
and keep them safe!

Whalers over fished

Tangaroa

WE HAVE

THE PAUA

to change things

Houses
cars

= More
chemicals
Sedimentation

Oil
sewage

No Rain
down the
stormwater
drain.

No
Swimming



The Wind!

Battle hill

Why should we care
about the harbour?

- Because of all of the creatures
living inside the harbour will
lose their home
- Because we would like to make
a clean environment for people in
the future.

- So we can be even more proud
of our country New Zealand.
- Clean up rubbish so the harbour
won't look messy and polluted
with rubbish.

